Introduction of Pension Scheme in Coal Industry

*66. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to introduce a pension scheme for the workers in the coal industry; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) Coal India Limited is working on a retirement benefit scheme for its employees.

Guidelines for the Allotment of 'Industrial Growth Centres' in the States

*67. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of 'Industrial Growth Centres' to be developed/developed in the country, State-wise with the names of the districts;

(b) what are the guidelines to the State for allotment of these Centres to the entreprenuers/industrialists;

(c) what expenditure is likely to be incurred on these Centres, State-wise;

(d) what is the difference between Central Subsidies Scheme for backward areas of the States and the new scheme of Industrial Growth Centres; and

(e) whether the earlier Central Subsidies Scheme has been disbanded or superseded by the present Scheme; if disbanded, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Government have decided to set up 100 growth centres throughout the country over the next five years or so. The Growth Centres designed to act as magnets for attracting industries to backward areas, would be endowed with infrastructural facilities at par with the best available in the country. In the first phase, it has been decided to take up 61 Growth Centres. The State-wise allocation of Growth Centres is as follows:—

State	No. of growth centres
1. Andhra Pradesh	4
2. Assam	2
3. Bihar	5
4. Gujarat	2
5. Haryana	2
6. Jammu & Kashmir	2
7. Karnataka	3
8. Kerala	2
9. Madhya Pradesh	5
10. Maharashtra	4
11. Orissa	2
12. Punjab	2
13. Rajasthan	4
14. Tamil Nadu	3
15. Uttar Pradesh	6
16. West Bengal	3
17. Arunachal Pradesh	1
18. Goa	1
19. Himachal Pradesh	1
20. Manipur	1
21. Meghalaya	1
22. Mizoram	1
23. Nagaland	1
24. Pondicherry	1
25. Tripura	1
Total:-	61

(b) The broad criteria for selection of growth centres would be that they shall not be within 50 Kms from the boundary of the 7 cities with a population above 25 lakhs; 30 Kms from the boundary of the 2 cities with a population of above 15 lakhs but below 25 laksh and 15 Kms from the boundary of the 12 cities with a population of 7.5 lakhs but below 15 lakhs. They shall be located close to

District Sub-Divisional Bolck / Taluk Head Quarters or Developing Urban Centres. Further, they shall have access to the basic facilities like proximity to Rail-heads, National or State Highways adequate and dependable source of power and water supply telecommunication facilites, health and educational facilities etc. The State Government have been advised to send their proposals as early as possible, preferably by the 30th April, 1989.

(c) Each growth centre will be provided with funds of order of Rs. 2530 crores to develop infrastructural facilities. Some of them may need funds of a lower order depending on their nature and location.

(d) The Central investmant subsidy scheme provides capital investment subsidy for establishing a project, whereas the purpose of the "Growth Centres" Scheme is to provide infrastructural facilities of a high order at the growth centres.

(e) As of now, the Central Investment Subsidy Scheme stands extended upto 30th September, 1988.

Exploration of Hydrocarbons in the country

*68. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of PET ROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total licenced area for hydrocarbon exploration in the country at present;

(b) what are the names of the companies which have been issued licences since April last year for exploration activities;

(c) what is the area covered by each such new licence and the name of the basin in which this area lies; and

(d) what progress has been made in the exploration of hydrocarbon by each foreign company engaged since 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) As on April 1, 1988 the Oil and Natural Gas commission (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL) hold Petroleum Exploration Licences (PEL) for the areas given below:—

(Area in sq. kms.)

ONGC	3,70,597.24
OIL	47,660

In addition, ONGC and OIL hold letters of authority for a total off shore area of 1,15,580 sq. kms. Exploration in these areas is carried out by foreign oil companies under production sharing contracts with Government of India and OIL/. ONGC.

(b) and (c) Since April, 1988, PEL's for exploration have been granted as follows:—

Name of the oil company	Basin	Approximate area (in sq. kms.)
ONGC	The information is being obtained and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.	
OIL	Nil	Nil